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NEWS RELEASE

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RECORD-SETTING METHAMPHETAMINE BUST
LEADS TO FEDERAL INDICTMENT

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a three-count indictment, yesterday, against OSBALDO OSWALDO SARABIA, 29, of Salida, California charging him with possessing with intent to distribute at least 50 grams of methamphetamine in Stockton, California on October 12, 2006, and possessing with intent to distribute at least 5 kilograms of cocaine.

The case is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Stockton Police Department, and the San Joaquin Metropolitan Narcotics Task Force ("METRO").

According to Assistant United States Attorney Jason Hitt, who is prosecuting the case, SARABIA was a multiple-pound methamphetamine dealer operating from his home in Salida, California. On October 12, 2006, SARABIA was arrested in a Denny's parking lot in San Joaquin County in a buy/bust operation. In SARABIA's BMW, agents discovered approximately 4 pounds of methamphetamine. A subsequent search of SARABIA's Stanislaus County residence resulted in what is believed to be the largest methamphetamine bust in the Eastern District of California's Central Valley. Agents discovered nearly 126 pounds of crystal methamphetamine and over 6 kilograms of powder cocaine.

If convicted, SARABIA faces a maximum of life in prison on each of the three counts. Each count in the indictment also carries a mandatory minimum of 10 years in prison. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

On November 6, 2006, SARABIA made his initial appearance in federal court, and at that time he was ordered detained as a flight risk and as a danger to the community. SARABIA is expected to appear before a United States Magistrate Judge in Sacramento on Monday, November 27, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. for arraignment.

The charges in the indictment are only allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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